

# Ensemble SurPlus Documentation

The musicians of Ensemble SurPlus, together with their audiences, the composers, and radio- and CD-listeners can look back on three seasons, in which Ensemble SurPlus has expanded its activities and broadened its horizons.

Alongside their first guest appearances at Harvard-University, Boston, in Ecuador and Korea, long standing institutional cooperation and international commitments were maintained. Not only renewed invitations to Buffalo/New York, the home of one of the leading festivals for new music in North America, but also the summer courses at the Academy "Schloss Solitude" in Stuttgart, run by an internationally acclaimed group of composers were on the ensemble's programme. At the same time, activities in Freiburg, where the ensemble is based, have been undergoing continuous development. The pedagogically orientated projects such as workshops, lecture concerts, discussion concerts have been intensified, not only targeting the expert audience, but also a broad circle of recipients, for instance pupils at secondary school or young instrumentalists, participating in a competition. Live recordings of concert performances were broadcasted by "Südwestrundfunk" and "Deutschlandradio Kultur".

The Ensemble also gained support from regional institutions, such as the Cultural Office Freiburg and the Regional Council of Freiburg, from nationally orientated institutions like the National Culture Foundation, as well as special support for international activities by the Foreign Office (Goethe Institut). In 2010, the ensemble received an award from the Ernst-von-Siemens Music Foundation with the purpose of commissioning compositions for the ensemble - the works by Prof. Dieter

Mack (Musikhochschule Lübeck) and Prof. Claus-Steffen Mahnkopf (Musikhochschule Leipzig) will be premiered 2012 at the anniversary concert in celebration of 20 years of Ensemble SurPlus in Freiburg, the compositions by Prof. Daniel Biró (Vancouver, Canada) will be premiered January 19th, 2013 in Toronto.

In the above mentioned activities, Ensemble SurPlus remained true to its ideals - particularly by choosing outstanding works and concepts, regardless of the possible difficulties. They thus not only overcame exceptional technical challenges but have also developed a fresh approach to their performance modalities - on one hand, performing under renowned guest conductors and on the other, rehearsing extremely ambitious compositions either completely without a conductor or with an ensemble member conducting. In addition to the actual rehearsing and performing, the musicians themselves have deepened their pedagogical, musicological and concert-didactical activities, and have hence contributed to the intensive cooperation with institutions and musicians in Freiburg and beyond.